

Message Text

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51

ACTION ORM-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-09 ISO-00 SR-02 IO-10 SCA-01 VO-03

CIAE-00 FBIE-00 INSE-00 NSAE-00 L-02 /041 W

----- 108063

R 211603Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMCONSUL TABRIZ

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 5094

ATHENS FOR INS

FRANKFURT FOR INS

KUWAIT POUCH BAGHDAD FOR INFO

ROME FOR INS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF, IR, IZ, LE

SUBJECT: REFUGEES FROM IRAQ

REF: GENEVA 2738

1. BEIRUT WELCOMES AND SUPPORTS REFTEL RECOMMENDING
AGAINST UNILATERAL USG ACTION INCLUDING CONDITIONAL ENTRY
PROCESSING.

2. WHATEVER FINAL DECISION, BEIRUT WISHES REITERATE THAT
INDIVIDUAL KURDISH REFUGEES WHO MAY SEEK PROCESSING IN
ANOTHER COUNTRY SHOULD BE STRONGLY DISCOURAGED FROM
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ENTERING LEBANON WHERE THEY WILL ENCOUNTER PROCESSING

DELAYS OF AT LEAST 18 MONTHS, PERHAPS MUCH LONGER. FURTHERMORE, THEIR PRESENCE IN LEBANON COULD COMPLICATE EXISTING REFUGEE PROGRAM, ESPECIALLY IN LIGHT RECENT SEVERE CIVIL STRIFE HERE. AS PREVIOUSLY STATED, EMBASSY MOST RELUCTANT DISCUSS SITUATION WITH GOL AS ENTIRE 203(A)7 PROGRAM HERE, WHILE TOLERATED, IS OFFICIALLY IGNORED.

3. EMBASSY RECENTLY LEARNED OF ONE RELATED MATTER. APPROXIMATELY 110 SYRIANS FROM NORTHERN IRAQ ENTERED LEBANON, HAVING FLED FROM FINAL DAYS OF ACTIVE HOSTILITIES. UNHCR HAS RULED SUCH APPLICANTS NOT ELIGIBLE UNDER MANDATE BECAUSE THEY FLED FROM BATTLE RATHER THAN FROM POLITICAL, RELIGIOUS, RACIAL ETC. PERSECUTION. INS/AHTENS OPINES INFORMALLY THAT INS DECISION, UNDER TERMS INA, WOULD BE SAME. OBVIOUSLY INDIVIDUAL APPLICANTS COULD BE INCLUDED 203(A)7 PROGRAM IF ESTABLISH INDIVIDUALLY THEY DID FLEE FROM PERSECUTION.

4. JAHN OF UNHCR DISCUSSED PROBLEM WITH MINISTER KHARAGOLI, IRAQI EMBASSY, WHO STATES CATEGORICALLY THAT IRAQI AMNESTY APPLIES TO ALL PERSON, NOT JUST KURDS. HE STATED HE WILLING AND AUTHORIZED GUARANTEE THEIR SAFE RETURN TO IRAQ AND TO GUARANTEE THEIR NON-PUNISHMENT. ALSO WILL ISSUE TRAVEL DOCUMENTATION AND FINANCE REPATRIATION IF NECESSARY. OFFERED TO MEET WITH DELEGATION TO REASSURE THEM AND MAKE ARRANGEMENTS. CIVIL STRIFE IN LEBANON LAST WEEK INTERRUPTED ACTION, BUT ARRANGEMENTS WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE PURSUED SOON. THIS EMBASSY HAS NOT BEEN APPROACHED RE MATTER AND IS TAKING NO ACTION.
GODLEY

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NNN

Message Attributes

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